

U.S. Appln. Serial No.: 09/987,909
OA dated March 29, 2004
Amdt. dated June 21, 2004

REMARKS:

Claims 1-9 are currently being examined. Claims 1-6 have not been amended. Claims 7-9 have been newly added. No claims have been canceled. It is respectfully believed that no new matter has been introduced.

Before turning to the cited art, a brief review of the present invention is in order. The present invention provides an auxiliary device module including positioning portions **6** having a plurality of pressure contact receiving grooves **6b** each being pre-formed with complimentary shape; and wire fixing portions **6h** hugging at least one wire **4a**, *wherein the wire fixing portions 6h extend upwardly from the receiving grooves 6b* (see FIG. 6 of the present invention). The present invention also provides the following features: pillar portion **6i**, locking portion **6j**, groove bottom portion **6f**, slant portion **6g**, and insulation cover **4c** (see FIG. 6).

The subject matter set forth in new claims 7-9 is supported by the application as originally filed (see FIG. 6 and corresponding portions of the specification, for example).

1. CLAIMS 1-3

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over Reference 1 (USP 6,079,848, issued to **Ahroni**) in view of Reference 2 (USP 5,675,890, issued to **Yamamoto**).

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Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Ahroni discloses a lamp unit with push-in type bulb holder. **Ahroni** describes bulb 26, wireway 20, and base unit 23. Prongs 28a straddle and engage wire 12, and the end portions 28c bite into the plastic of the base wall of base 23 (FIG. 7; col. 4, lines 46-55). In **Ahroni**, sharp end portions 28c bite into the base 23 (see FIG. 7; col. 4, lines 50-55). The Examiner may possibly be suggesting that hypothetical indentations are formed in base 23 by the sharp end portions 28c biting into the base 23.

Yamamoto discloses a method of press-connecting electrical wires to a connector, and describes a press connecting blade 43, pressing protrusions 99, 101, and 103, and press connecting wall 65 (FIGS. 2A-3B; col. 5, lines 36-49).

The Examiner appears to allege that the above-described hypothetical indentations in base 23 of **Ahroni**, when combined with **Yamamoto**, teaches or suggests the “receiving grooves” set forth in claim 1 of the present invention. However, the above-described hypothetical indentations in base 23, in view of **Ahroni** and **Yamamoto**, fail to describe, teach, or suggest the receiving grooves as set forth in claim 1, as amended.

Even if one alleges that References 1 and 2 do disclose the claimed receiving grooves,

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however, it is clear that those References definitely do not describe, teach, or suggest the following features of claim 1:

“wherein said wire fixing portions extend upwardly *from* the receiving grooves”,
in combination with the other claimed features.

The Examiner alleges that **Ahroni**’s curved base flanges 36, 36’ (see FIGS. 3 and 7) disclose the wire fixing portions set forth in claim 1 of the present invention.

However, **Ahroni**’s curved base flanges 36, 36’, in combination with the teachings of **Yamamoto**, fail to teach or suggest “wire fixing portions” extending upwardly from the above-described hypothetical indentations in **Ahroni**’s base 23. Furthermore, **Ahroni** in view of **Yamamoto** fails to teach or suggest any such features extending upwardly from the above-described hypothetical indentations in base 23.

The hypothetical indentations do not have “wire fixing portions” which extend upwardly from the hypothetical indentations. Also, the hypothetical indentations do not have any features that describe, teach, or suggest the claimed “wire fixing portions” extending upwardly from the hypothetical indentations.

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Ahroni and **Yamamoto**, alone or in combination, fail to describe, teach, or suggest the following features of claim 1: “wherein said wire fixing portions extend upwardly from the receiving grooves” in combination with the other claimed features.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection should be withdrawn.

2. CLAIMS 4-6

Claims 4-6 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over Reference 1 (**Ahroni**) in view of Reference 2 (**Yamamoto**) and alleged “Admitted Prior Art” (**APA**).

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The alleged **APA** relates to an auxiliary unit which may correspond to a camera module. The alleged **APA** does not remedy the deficiencies of References 1 and 2 regarding the above-discussed features of base claim 1.

Ahroni, **Yamamoto**, and the alleged **APA**, alone or in combination, fail to describe, teach, or suggest the following features of base claim 1: “wherein said wire fixing portions extend upwardly from the receiving grooves” in combination with the other claimed features.

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Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection should be withdrawn.

3. CLAIMS 7-9

Applicants have presented new claims 7-9 to alternatively and more completely define Applicants' invention and thereby assist the Examiner by facilitating the examination and expediting a compact prosecution.

Although the Office Action mailed March 29, 2004 did not address these claims, not hitherto available to the Examiner, Applicants desire to make a record as to why **Ahroni**, **Yamamoto**, and the alleged **APA** do not make them obvious, in the interest of speedy and compact prosecution, and otherwise indicate why they are patentable.

Claim 7 sets forth features including: "An auxiliary device module comprising: ... a plurality of **wire fixing portions** hugging the at least one wire; ... wherein positioning portions having a plurality of pressure contact **receiving grooves** each being pre-formed with complimentary shape as the predetermined shape of each of the pair of leading pressure contact blades so as to accommodate each of the pair of leading pressure contact blades; wherein each of said receiving grooves is formed with a **groove bottom portion joined by two slant portions**; and wherein **said wire fixing portions extend upwardly from the slant portions of the receiving grooves.**"

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Ahroni, Yamamoto, and the alleged APA, alone or in combination, fail to describe, teach, or suggest the following features set forth in claim 7: "wherein each of said receiving grooves is formed with a groove bottom portion joined by two slant portions; and wherein said wire fixing portions extend upwardly from the slant portions of the receiving grooves" in combination with the other claimed features.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims 1-9 are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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